

lot of birds, received from Mr. W. W. Brown, Jr., collected in May and June, 1898, at various localities in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia, at altitudes ranging from 5000 to 8000 feet. The collection numbers about 300 specimens, representing 66 species and subspecies, of which 8, and one genus, are described as new, as follows: *Neocrex colombianus*, *Anlacorhamphus latus*, *Leucuria* (gen. nov.) *phalerata*, *Elenia sororia*, *Grallaria spatiator*, *Spinus spinescens capitaneus*, *Diglossa nocticolor*, *Merula pheopyga minuscula*, *M. gigas cucozela*. The new Hummingbird (*Leucuria phalerata*), remarkable for its pure white tail, is related to *Helianthea* and *Hemistephania*; a colored figure of it will be given in a future number of this journal. — J. A. A.

Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science.—The 'Proceedings' of the Indiana Academy of Science for 1897 (1898) contains (pp. 175–207) several short ornithological papers, as follows: (1) 'Some Indiana Crow Roosts,' by A. W. Butler (pp. 175–178), enumerating 13 roosts, with a population varying from a few thousands to tens of thousands each, while one roost was estimated to contain "one hundred thousand Crows." (2) 'Notes on Crow Roosts of Western Indiana and Eastern Illinois,' by John S. Wright (pp. 178–180),—brief notes on six or eight roosts. (3) 'Brünnich's Guillemot (*Uria lomvia*) an Addition to the Birds of Indiana,' by A. W. Butler (pp. 180–183),—previously published, in substance, in 'The Auk' (XIV, April, 1897, pp. 197–199). (4) Notes on the Birds observed in the vicinity of Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana,' by Alden H. Hadley (pp. 183–198),—an annotated list of 137 species. (5) 'Notes on Indiana Heronries,' by A. W. Butler (pp. 198–201). This is an attempt to enumerate all the heronries at present or formerly existing in Indiana. Evidence is given of the former breeding of the American Egret (*Ardea egretta*) in some numbers in the Kankakee Marshes in northern Indiana, as well as at various points in the lower Wabash Valley. The inference is drawn that the few birds of this species noted in the central and northern parts of the State after the breeding season are not stragglers from the southward, as formerly supposed, but migrants on their way south from breeding stations in the northern part of the State. (6) 'The Recent occurrence of the Raven in Indiana,' by A. W. Butler (pp. 201, 202). Reported as breeding as late as 1894 at Raven's Rock, in Martin and Dubois Counties, and as recently occurring in winter in the northeastern part of the State. (7) 'An Instance of Bird Ferocity,' by Glenn Culbertson (pp. 206, 207). A Loggerhead Shrike observed impaling a Sparrow Hawk on the thorns of an osage orange tree.—J. A. A.

Recent Papers on the Great Auk.—Under the title 'The Orcadian Home of the Garefowl,' Prof. Newton in 'The Ibis' for October describes a visit to the Holm of Papa Westray, the breeding place of the species

whose extirpation, so far as the Orkneys is concerned, was compassed in 1813 by Bullock.

In the Transactions of the Edinburgh Field Naturalists and Microscopical Society, Mr. Symington Grieve brings the history of the Great Auk down to the end of July, 1898, recording the further discovery of bones in kitchen middings on the coasts of Iceland and Denmark. Still more interesting, however, was the finding of a hollow cast of an egg of the Great Auk, determined as such by Prof. Steenstrup, in a deposit of the sub-glacial period in the southern part of Sweden, to the northeast of Falsterbo, by members of the Swedish Geological Survey.—F. A. L.

Stickney and Hoffmann's 'Bird World.'¹—This book is designed for use as a school reader for intermediate grades. It contains some seventy odd chapters most of which treat briefly of the commoner birds while others deal with various phases of bird-life or bird structure; thus there are chapters on 'The Coming of the Birds,' 'Bird Homes,' 'How Young Birds Get Fed,' 'Food of Birds,' 'About Birds' toes,' 'Birds' Bills,' etc. The material has been carefully selected and seems well adapted to interest children in bird-study.

The author has done wisely in securing the coöperation of a practical ornithologist and Mr. Hoffmann's name on the title page of her work is a guarantee of its freedom from serious errors. In two or three instances, however, more careful revision would have added to the accuracy of the author's statements. For example, on p. 22, feathers are said to grow on the toes of the Grouse; on p. 103 birds are stated to moult their feathers "one from one side, then one from the other," while the unqualified assertion that "Parrots hang themselves up at night by their beaks" requires considerable modification, and, as a matter of fact, the name 'Candelita' is not applied to the Redstart in the West Indian Islands, outside of Cuba.

The book is profusely and well illustrated by ten full-page drawings by Mr. Thompson, eight half-tone color photographs of mounted birds, pen and ink outlines of birds' wings, bills, feet, tails, etc., cuts from the publications of the Department of Agriculture, and other illustrations from 'The Osprey,' including several drawings by Mr. Fuertes.

An appendix gives a color key to fifty common birds, and lists of commoner birds grouped according to their local distribution, and whether beneficial or injurious, etc.—F. M. C.

Publications Received.—Bangs, Outram. On some Birds from the Sierra Madra de Santa Marta, Colombia. (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. XII, 1898, pp. 171-182.)

¹ Bird World | A Bird Book for Children | By | J. H. Stickney | Assisted by | Ralph Hoffmann | — | Boston, U. S. A. | Ginn & Company, Publishers | The Athenæum Press | 1898 | 12 mo., pp. vi + 214. Numerous illustrations. Price, 70 cents.